

NATIONAL HONEY REPORT



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service
Specialty Crops Program
Market News Division

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HONEY MARKET FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2016

IN VOLUMES OF 10,000 POUNDS OR GREATER UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

Prices paid to beekeepers for extracted, unprocessed honey in major producing states by packers, handlers & other large users, cents per pound, f.o.b. or delivered nearby, containers exchanged or returned, prompt delivery & payment unless otherwise stated.

- REPORT INCLUDES BOTH NEW AND OLD CROP HONEY - (# Some in Small Lot --- +Some delayed payments or previous commitment)

CORRECTED COPY: SEE CANADIAN PRICES

CALIFORNIA

Orange Blossom	White	\$2.30	
Orange Blossom	Extra Light Amber	\$2.05	- \$2.30
Sage	Extra Light Amber	\$2.30	
Sage	Light Amber	\$2.30	
Cotton	Light Amber	\$1.60	

DAKOTAS

Canola	White	\$1.75	
Clover	White	\$1.65	

FLORIDA

Orange Blossom	Light Amber	\$2.25	
Gallberry	Light Amber	\$1.50	- \$1.60

LOUISIANA

Tallow	Extra Light Amber	\$1.60	
Tallow	Light Amber	\$1.60	

MICHIGAN

Blueberry	Light Amber	\$2.65	
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MINNESOTA

Basswood	White	\$1.65	
Wildflower	Light Amber	\$1.65	

MISSISSIPPI

Tallow	Light Amber	\$1.60	
Wildflower	Light Amber	\$1.60	

MONTANA

Clover	White	\$1.65	
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Prices paid to Canadian Beekeepers for unprocessed, bulk honey by packers and importers in U. S. currency, f.o.b. shipping point, containers included unless otherwise stated. Duty and crossing charges extra. Cents per pound.

Canola	White	\$0.95	
Mixed Flowers	White	\$1.00	
Organic	White	\$1.75	

Prices paid to importers for bulk honey, duty paid, containers included, cents per pound, ex-dock or point of entry unless otherwise stated.

ARGENTINA

Mixed Flowers	White	\$0.90	- \$0.94
Mixed Flowers	Extra Light	\$0.87	- \$1.00
Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$0.83	- \$1.00

BRAZIL

ORGANIC	Extra Light	\$1.72	- \$1.91
ORGANIC	Light Amber	\$1.58	- \$1.81

INDIA

Mixed Flowers	Extra Light	\$1.03	
Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$0.92	- \$1.13
Mustard	Extra Light	\$0.92	
Mustard	Light Amber	\$0.90	- \$0.92

MEXICO

Mesquite	White	\$1.72	
Orange	Light Amber	\$1.84	- \$2.15
Organic	Light Amber	\$1.61	- \$1.90

VIETNAM

Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$0.82	- \$0.97
Mixed Flowers	Amber	\$0.73	

UKRAINE

Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$1.17	
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URUGUAY

Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$0.83	
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COLONY, HONEY PLANT AND MARKET CONDITIONS DURING JULY, 2016

APPALACHIAN DISTRICT (MD, PA, VA, WV: The early part of July produced very nice weather and by mid-month it was very hot and dry where it stayed until the end of the month. Peach, nectarine harvest began mid to late month. Field crop harvesting was also active late in the month under temperatures in the nineties with heat indexes over 100 degrees. Most of the District is very dry despite a few areas receiving short lived relief from

passing thunder showers. Colony activity was minimal as the temperatures crept upward. Nectar sources early in the month were Basswood in the southern part of the District and generally wildflowers such as sumac, clover, and milkweed.

ALABAMA: Central Alabama beekeepers have reported that some of their colonies are now in need of feeding. Despite adequate resources left after spring harvest, bees are rapidly taking 1:1 sugar water.

In central Alabama, Varroa counts are minimal at present, so some beekeepers are feeding each hive about 2 gal of sugar water in late July through early August and then applying Varroa treatment (alternating yearly with Apiguard and Apivar). If colonies are strong with healthy queens, there are not many problems with Small Hive Beetles, (SHBs). To keep low populations of SHBs in the apiary beekeepers are paper combining weak colonies and closing empty hive equipment to save comb.

Review this beekeeper's Sentinel Hive Project at: URL: http://bipscaleportal.herokuapp.com/demo_hives/139 . If that URL does not work, try <https://beeinformed.org/hive-scale-program> You should be able to view seasonal data from a scale hive that is participating in this project. The date range can be changed to monitor the colony's activities so far this year.

The beekeeper said that the scale hive in the EB yard began gaining weight on April 3 and peaked on May 19, 2016. Ideally, honey should have pulled in May. The steady decline since May 19 indicates that there has not been much bloom sources since May 19. Goldenrod and Astor are coming up next. If those plants are not productive, the beekeeper will need to feed until frost.

An overview from one beekeeper was: (1) came out of the winter with ten or twelve hives, (2) one died from Varroa, (3) Three splits were made, and four packages were purchased last spring (4) Presently 16 colonies are being maintained. (5) nine have produced honey, (6) seven are being fed. (7) honey is presently being pulled.

In one instance, a trailer was used to provide a mobile yard. One hundred pounds of honey was produced in south Alabama. The colonies have been moved to Talladega for sourwood. Earlier in the spring, 150 pounds of gallberry honey was produced. It has not yet sold.

From Southeast Alabama, plentiful rain has resulted in large colony populations and a good gallberry crop.

ARIZONA: Temperatures in Arizona were at normal levels during the first week of July, were at slightly above normal levels the second week of the month, and was at above normal levels for the remainder of July. The high temperature for the month was recorded in Bullhead City at 120 degrees Fahrenheit; while the low temperature for the month in Arizona was 38 degrees Fahrenheit in Grand Canyon.

During the month of July, the weekly number of reporting stations across Arizona to receive precipitation (out of 50 stations) were 10, 12, 37 and 47, respectively. Out of the 50 reporting stations, 6 are at above normal precipitation levels for the year, with 44 stations at below normal levels for the year.

The main nectar and pollen sources for bees in the state during the month of July were watermelons, alfalfa and various desert plant bloom. Cantaloupes, honeydews and mixed and miscellaneous melons were also a source during the early part of the month. Demand for honey was good

ARKANSAS: No report issued.

CALIFORNIA: California remained hot and dry for the majority of July, with light rainfall early in the month, isolated to parts of the northern mountains, bringing less than a quarter inch of rainfall to those areas. Most mountain snowpacks were gone, with only patchy snow at sheltered areas in the northern mountains above 10,000 feet, as well on the peak of Mt. Shasta.

As the month progressed, hot weather continued with no locations in the state reporting any measurable rainfall. As we reached the peak of the summer dry season, a few scattered showers occurred in the central and southern Sierras, however all locations received less than 0.25 inches. As the drought continues, some beekeepers are moving their bees near better water sources as many sources are drying fast and complaints are starting to come in of bees getting water from neighbor's pools and faucets.

There were reports of Small Hive Beetles in some of the colonies, this past month. The bees are currently being treated for varroa mites. The colony populations have reached their maximum for the year and are currently preparing their nests for winter, by organizing their stores and brood chambers. Some of the spring honey has already been harvested. Some pollen and little nectar was available during the month, and some additional sugar feeding was necessary. Bees are currently working melon, cucumber, and sunflower fields. Where available, bees are feeding on sumac, Leopard lilies, geraniums, Allium, blanket flowers, and various wildflowers. S

Tarweed, as well as blue curl, will be blooming soon in the hills so some colonies will be moved to those areas. Some bees are being moved out of seed alfalfa and moved to Nevada for hay alfalfa. Some bees have been moved into Squash pollination, at \$50.00 per colony.

FLORIDA: A few areas of the state received normal precipitation during the month, but most areas were hotter and dryer than normal. Bee health was considered to be good, mainly dependent upon the quality of mite control. It was estimated that almost 90% of commercial bees were located outside of the state at the beginning of the month. Only about 30% of commercial bees were still out of state by the end of the month. Bees will continue to be returned to Florida until all are back no later than the middle of September. Cooler weather in some of the Northwestern states was one reason bees were returning. Preparing for the next major honey production in Brazilian Pepper was another. It should start blooming by mid to late September. The high temperatures kept most bees from flying and supplemental feeding was necessary with only a few wildflowers available as a natural food source. Practically no honey was being produced and almost no stored honey was available for sale. Supplies were very light with very good demand for any honey stocks.

GEORGIA: Beekeepers report that the bees are in good shape for most of the areas as continual treatments have helped tremendously. Some beekeepers have reported minimal losses, while others have had 20-30 percent losses.

In the northern areas the Sourwood flow is reported to be very good and volume stronger than the last two years. In the central and southern areas the bees are being prepared to head into the irrigated cotton areas hoping to get a good fall flow.

Prices were \$2.00-2.25 with a high of \$2.50 last year and now offerings of \$1.75 or less per lb wholesale have kept the beekeepers holding onto the honey waiting for stronger offerings.

IDAHO, COLORADO, UTAH: During the month of July temperatures were above normal in Colorado and Utah and below normal over much of Idaho, according to the National Weather Service. Precipitation was very variable across Idaho, Colorado and Utah during the month of July, according to the National weather service. The Northern Panhandle of Idaho and West Central Colorado had generally above normal precipitation during this period. While most other areas of Utah, Colorado and Idaho had below normal precipitation during the same period.

According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, Colorado continues to have near normal moisture conditions across most areas of the State in July with the exception of continued abnormally dry conditions in the Southwest and Northcentral part of the State. Normal moisture conditions are present in Eastern

and Southwest Utah and most of the State of Idaho. There were still several scattered pockets of abnormally dry conditions in the Northern Panhandle and Northeast areas of Idaho and in the Central part of Utah during the month of July.

There has been a mixed review on health of bees across Idaho, Utah and Colorado during the month of July. Commercial beekeepers in Idaho and Utah have stated that their bees are looking fairly good at this time of the season. One beekeeper in Utah stated that even the queen bees are doing better this year compared to last year. In Colorado commercial beekeepers are still having problems with queens and in some cases have seen up to 20 percent loss of bees this summer. It is not known what caused this much of a loss.

July has been rather dry in many locations of Idaho, Utah and Colorado, thereby limiting foraging opportunities on many wildflowers. One commercial beekeeper in Colorado described the up and down weather this year as either feast or famine for his bees. There has been real good irrigated alfalfa for beekeepers in Utah, Colorado and Idaho. Besides alfalfa, beekeepers in Idaho are finishing up on contract pollination of carrot and onion fields. Beekeepers in Idaho are now moving on to mint fields. In Colorado other crops bees are currently working besides alfalfa include white sweet clover, yellow sweet clover and alsike clover. Most commercial beekeepers do not have the need to provide supplemental feed or pollen now due to the abundance of foraging plants for nectar and pollen. However, some droughty areas lacking good foraging plants have forced commercial beekeepers in those areas to add supplemental pollen and corn syrup, or sugar syrup on an as needed basis.

Varroa mites seem to be under control at the moment in most commercial yards. Beekeepers will be conducting varroa mite checks soon and treating as soon as all the honey has been pulled from the hives, unless problems develop before that time.

In the last week of July, beekeepers in Idaho were starting to pull off frames of honey. Beekeepers in Colorado and Utah were planning to begin harvest of honey by the first part of August. This process should be completed by the first part of September in the three States. In many cases, beekeepers have stated that when possible, it is better to pull frames of honey out of the hives as early as possible so they can start treating mites. Early control is always the best to keep the mites in check or to manage a problem from getting out of control. Overall retail demand for honey from Idaho, Utah and Colorado is still very good. There continues to be exceptional demand for local honey. Wholesale demand has seemed to slow according to beekeepers due to the flood of imported honey coming into the United States. Therefore, major concerns continue to linger among commercial beekeepers about the strong U.S. dollar and the flood of imported cheap honey into the United States that are the result of this monetary policy. What effect continued low priced imported honey will have upon the domestic market during this season is still unknown. There are no current wholesale domestic prices available yet for 2016 new crop honey, since very little honey has been sold into the market at this time.

ILLINOIS: The weather for July was hot and humid with many thunderstorms. Beekeepers report that most of their bees are in fair condition. Beekeepers also report that there are very little wild flowers left for the bees. Beekeepers report little production in the month of July and think this year will yield no better than an average amount of honey. Demand for honey is good at the retail level and fairly good at wholesale level with wholesalers waiting to see where prices go. Prices are generally unchanged.

INDIANA: Temperatures for the month of July were high and it was hot. There was more rain than usual. Beekeepers report that their bees continue to feed on wild flowers, such as clover and alfalfa. The bees are said to be in fair condition. Beekeepers report a small amount of honey flow and that some of what it is of poor quality. Demand for honey is good at the retail level and fairly good at the wholesale level. Prices are generally unchanged.

IOWA, KANSAS, MISSOURI, NEBRASKA: Hot and wet conditions were observed, as temperatures and precipitation were above normal across the states. The honey flow was reported as good as beekeepers were excited about the good crop season. Supers being pulled were full of good weighted honey. There was some mite infestation reported as normal. Beekeepers were busy pulling honey supers. Queens have slowed down in eggs production. Beekeepers have also expressed that the demand for raw unprocessed honey remains strong. Demand is great and prices are strong for domestic honey. Nectar and pollen sources are alfalfa, yellow clover, white sweet clover, Dutch clover, black locust and various ornamentals and wildflowers. State honey association and local bee clubs are preparing for their upcoming state fairs in which honey and honey products are displayed and sold.

KENTUCKY: July has been a surprisingly good month for most beekeepers throughout the Commonwealth. The only exception would be the Eastern KY section (District 4), in which beekeepers have had to start feeding. But in the rest of the three districts, there has been enough rain to extend a sustained clover flow. Honey bees have also been visiting smartweed, goldenrod, clethra, coneflowers, borage and other mid-summer flowers. It has not all been perfect, however, because some beekeepers in the Bluegrass region have lost colonies and honey supers to small hive beetles. There has been one case of European foulbrood, and one case of American foulbrood. In the case of the American foulbrood hive, the beekeeper burned the colony upon a positive field test ID. An inspection of every hive in this apiary showed no other signs of American foulbrood. There have also been a few cases of bald brood. Varroa mites are making their presence felt, with some mites being visible on larvae and comb during routine inspections. Since some beekeepers have taken honey, only to have the bees fill up their wet supers so quickly that they had to turn around and take honey again, the beekeepers have not had time to treat for varroa mites. Some beekeepers in District 3 have had trouble with high moisture content, but their other yards in District 4 have not had those problems. So, for the month of July, the colonies seem to have stabilized with the more stable weather patterns of July. Last year, by comparison, was the fourth wettest summer in July in KY, and it showed with massive declines due to bees running out of honey supplies. The Kentucky State Fair is right around the corner, and we are looking forwarding to KY State Beekeepers Association hosting the honey booth. For this year's honey prices, please see: https://www.kyagr.com/statevet/documents/OSV_Bee_Honey-Prices-Sheet.pdf.

LOUISIANA: Pollen and nectar sources during August were from various trees, crops and wild flowers. The colonies were in generally good condition. Honey demand and supply are good.

MICHIGAN: - Across Central Michigan, the honey flow began strong, lightened up mid-month, and ended with a strong flow after rains stimulated the nectar flow. Basswood bloom, followed by bee balm, white and Dutch sweet clover and alfalfa were the primary nectar sources during the month. Beekeepers have reported the stronger colonies are showing higher mite levels at this time, and treatment is necessary to thwart off viruses gaining strength.

MINNESOTA: During the month of July temperatures were above normal across the entire State according to the National Weather Service. Precipitation was generally above normal across the entire State during the same period with the exception of below normal precipitation in an area around International Falls. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, moisture conditions are normal over most of the State with the exception of abnormally dry conditions in the West Central part of Minnesota.

With most areas of Minnesota receiving above normal precipitation during the month of July, many areas also had very good foraging conditions for their bees. There was so much rain in spotty locations that farmers had to delay cutting their second crop of alfalfa. Of course this was great news for

commercial beekeepers when an alfalfa fields had to delay harvest due to excessive wet fields. The longer alfalfa had to stand when mature, the more blooms/nectar became available for the bees to make honey.

Other foraging plants for bees during the month of July included basswood trees, white dutch clover, as well as white and yellow sweet clover. There has also been an abundance of pollen for the bee colonies. There continues to be persistent problems with bee kills in Minnesota as a result of pesticides applied near some large bee yards. Some hives continue to look good, while others look fairly poor. One issue causing some hives to limp along seems to be poor performing queens. According to beekeepers, when hives just do not seem to get ahead, the problem seems to be queens that are less than stellar in their production of new brood. Beekeepers plan to start treating for varroa mites as soon as the 2016 new crop honey is harvested.

With fairly heavy rain events in many parts of the state, it appears that beekeeper have delayed pulling off frames for harvesting of honey. Harvest may now be delayed until August.

Overall demand for Minnesota retail honey is still very good. There is still a major concern among Minnesota beekeepers about the import of cheap honey into the United States and what effect this will have upon the domestic market prices. It continues to be very attractive for import of honey into the U.S. due to the strong U.S. dollar. There are no current wholesale prices available yet for the 2016 new crop honey.

MISSISSIPPI: The bees are reported to be in good to excellent shape after the latest honey pull in July. The demand remains strong and quality reported as very good with low moisture and light amber in color. Prices are still fairly high at \$2.10 per pound for wildflower honey. Treatments for mites and small hive beetles are being utilized year round now in most major operations, resulting in less losses and condition of the hives and bees in much better shape.

MONTANA: No report issued.

NEW ENGLAND: New England weather in July, for the most part had average temperatures generally well above normal combined with high humidity early on and throughout the month. Precipitation and soil moisture levels were well below average with pollen sources and many nectar sources starting to slow and end quickly. New England has experienced hot daytime temperatures in the high 80s and mid-90s. There seems to be a pattern where bees are bringing in little nectar and pollen early in the day and robbing is a problem later in the day with many bees feeding. Keepers report that many bees are hanging outside the hives in order to escape the heat while others line up with their backs toward the entrance and fan their wings to create a cooling air flow through the hive. Many hives have bees clustered on the front of the hive with many hives bearding. This indicates that the bees are not out foraging and are opportunistic to any easy nectar source because of their tendency to swarm to the nearest nectar source. Regionally we are in a nectar dearth, so keepers reportedly are watching for syrup feedings if necessary. The bees are finding it hard to find nectar with so much heat and humidity. Additionally, many bees are by the water sources as well which is customary for this time of season and weather pattern. Bees are putting what they are bringing inside the hive into brood production.

It currently appears that this season's main honey flow is starting to come to an end. It was an interesting honey flow progression this year for New England. This seasons main foraging sources started with honeysuckle (*Lonicera morrow*), white clover (*Trifolium repens*), black locust (*Robinia pseudo acacia*), blackberry (*Rebus spp.*) Followed by multiflora rose, which produces a golden brown pollen, shag horn sumac (*Rhus typhina*), linden-basswood, *Tilia cordata*, *T. Americana*, smooth sumac (*Rhus glabra*), milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*) and with much of the region being dominated by white clover. Bees were working black locust, swamp thistle, button bush, purple loosestrife, wild radish, American basswood/linden (*Tilia Americana*), milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*), winded sumac, staghorn sumac (*Rhus typhina*), smooth sumac (*Rhus glabra*), buckwheat, sweet pepper bush (*Chethora*), meadow sweet (produces a light olive pollen color) as well as vegetable crops and a variety of flowering trees and wild flowers. Some excellent pollen and nectar sources for bees are the legumes such as alsike clover (*Trifolium hybridum*), purple vetch (*Vicia sativa*), birds foot trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*), alfalfa (*Medicago sativa*), and clovers such as white sweet clover (*Melilotus alba*) and yellow sweet clover (*Melilotus officinalis*) are all in full bloom at this point in time. The nectar and pollen flow from American linden/basswood has been incredibly strong. Additionally with many unanticipated feeding sources available, this could be one of the best honey crop years in New England. The honey flow will dramatically slow as nectar becomes scarce, brood rearing slows down but there's still a large population of bees. Keepers advise to extract honey as soon as possible and leave enough honey for the bees during July and August when nectar is scarce. Honey flows have been good in strong colonies with keepers reportedly extracting 3 times before starting their mite treatments.

In regard to varroa and nosema treatments, New England keepers are aware that strong colonies in mid-Summer can be highly infested with varroa mites and nosema and can crash in late-Summer and fall. Keepers will use biological controls when possible to suppress mite populations, especially when surplus honey is being produced. New England keepers have learned to exercise judicious treatment while using soft chemicals and follow recommended label instructions. Care should be taken to rotate treatments to prevent resistance.

Early commercial crop pollination services involved cranberries with pollination fees ranging from \$85.00 to \$125.00 mostly \$100.00 per hive colony depending on transportation cost requirements.

Early harvested honey reportedly was some of the highest quality and lightly colored ever. Harvested honey has been averaging 40 lbs. per colony. Beekeepers have been busy concentrating on extracting honey. The Italian and Russian honeybees have reportedly been the best honey producers with keepers that have been successful with huge honey production numbers. For the most part, colonies were reported to be good condition with few disease or mite problems however; there have been some reported wax moth problems. Tracheal and varroa mites are typically a problem in July and August. Demand at all retail/wholesale outlets remains good and honey sales remain firm.

Prices quoted for retail 1lb bottled units were strong and quoted at \$9.00 to \$12.00 mostly \$10.00 and occasionally higher inclusive of all varieties; for food service operations prices were strong with 5 gallon units selling at \$200.00 to \$245.00 mostly \$220.00 occasionally higher for all raw and natural honey depending on variety and quality.

NEW YORK: Central New York is currently in a severe draught after a winter that was maybe 75% of normal precipitation. Municipal water managers have sent out appeals to have citizens conserve water. Levels at reservoirs look more like what you would find in California, not upstate New York! Unless the state receives significant rainfall, the fall honey production will be impact honey flow as plants are physiologically dwarfed due to water stress. The basswood flow was 25% of average and although very nice, the nectar was dry. Without the high humidity, the honey was so dry it was hard to spin it off the comb. Lawns are brown, trees look wilted, which places more stress on the colonies as there are even fewer scattered plants for bees to forage on as we enter August. Scattered clumps of Goldenrod are about half normal for this time of the year, and prospects are grim to fill a normal amount of nectar. Honey sales are steady; however, beekeepers fear that next year's markets are in jeopardy of being filled, if the fall production remains lower. Colonies will need to be fed early and long to prepare hives for healthy overwintering.

NORTH CAROLINA: Temperatures in North Carolina were mostly above normal throughout July. The state received mostly normal precipitation, however, some regions reported damaging thunderstorms, wind, and hail the weeks ending July 16 and July 23; statewide soil moisture levels were rated 5 percent very short, 21.5 percent short, 65 percent adequate, and 8.5 percent surplus the week ending July 30. The North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council reported 6 counties as being abnormally dry, 8 counties experiencing moderate drought conditions, and 7 counties suffering from severe drought conditions.

There were no unusual pest issues reported in July. However, it is important to note that going into August hive beetles and Varroa mites have the potential to enter peak populations and beekeepers will have to be diligent at checking hives in order to prevent losses. It is also strongly advised that beekeepers check stores as starvation appeared to be the main cause of losses in July. Apiary inspectors speculate that early swarms and light to moderate nectar flows have resulted in low food stores, particularly in the northern Piedmont. Where available bees could be seen working Sumac across the State. Sourwood and Basswood, Linden were available in the Mountain region. Various clovers (Ladino, White and Sweet) were available throughout the Mountain and Piedmont regions. Also, available in the Piedmont region were Aslike Clover and Heartsease, Smartweed. It is hoped that the approaching Goldenrod bloom will provide some much needed help in building stores going into late summer and fall.

Consumer demand for honey remains high and is expected to reach premium prices again this season given the low producing spring and summer crops; and the rate of hives dying off due to starvation. Retail prices at the Raleigh State Farmers' Market remained steady and were: \$8.00 per 8 ounce jar, \$13.00 per 16 ounce jar, \$22.00 per 32 ounce jar, and \$18.00 per 44 ounce jar.

Commercial pollinator hives were either moved to pumpkin fields or placed in recovery as North Carolina's spring and summer growing seasons came to an end.

NORTH & SOUTH DAKOTA: The weather brought average temperatures and variable rainfall, sometimes heavy rains or thunderstorms, bringing needed moisture. Crops were coming generally ahead of last year and closer to average. Sunflowers were blooming. With bees working between storms. Again wind and rain limited bee activity at times during the month.

OHIO: Dry conditions are hurting as honey flows have nearly ceased. Queen losses are increasing, primarily due to poor mating in the spring, which also was a result of weather conditions. Farm market prices are starting to fall due to pressure from store honey that's imported and extremely cheap. Honey is easy to find at the commercial level, some approaching 35 cents per pound in the barrel. Local production costs are around \$1.25 per pound to keep bees alive, and will undoubtedly increase this fall.

OKLAHOMA: Pollen and nectar sources during July were from alfalfa, melons and buckwheat. Many hives had to supplement feed as reported from hobbyist and small timers. Weather at the beginning of the month was hot and bees consuming parts of stores. Rain was consistent to the end of month. Some beekeepers are extracting honey. Bees are strong and growing, while hive beetles are still strong in the shadows on hives, must be in full sun to have zero hive beetles. Some are getting \$10 per pound has been reported, \$15.00, 1/2 pint to \$40.00 a quart.

OREGON: No report issued.

SOUTH CAROLINA: No report issued.

TENNESSEE: The weather in Tennessee has been very hot and wet for the most of the State during July. There are reports of an excellent sourwood nectar flow during July. Sumac is still producing an excellent nectar flow across the State. Areas that do not produce Sumac or Sourwood have been in a nectar dearth and beekeepers in those area have had to feed if they harvested too much honey earlier in the year. The state of Tennessee is not seeing any disease or serious pest issues. Goldenrod and asters are starting to bloom across the state.

TEXAS: Ninety eight (98) pounds of honey was harvested in July. Although some hives had honey supers, only few produced surplus honey. And while 98 pounds is not a great harvest it is twice as much honey as was made last year – leaving a particularly happy beekeeper! Even in the hot weather, the four hives and the nucleus hive have gone about their business amicably, i.e. no robbing this year. And the only pests of note have been a small band of very persistent yellow jackets, who have repeatedly started a nest under the second story eaves of my house, directly over the apiary. It's a little too hot to treat for mites, but - with the brood dwindling in the summer dearth - now would be an ideal time.

Some beekeepers report getting some of the brightest and purest honey yields from hives ever, while others report weak hives yielding little to no honey production. Appears the rains had had some affect on production in the spring, but some still need to investigate the hives a little more to see if there's something else to the reason. Worst pests reported were fire ants, but rubbing orange oil on the corners of the outside of the hives has made this the first ant free summer for some.

WASHINGTON: Cherry harvest started July in full swing winding down later in the month expecting to finish earlier than normal. A few new crop apples began the end of the month. Bees were working various floral sources from vegetables and alfalfa to wildflowers. Warm weather early has cooled off slowing most crops' progress somewhat with mixed weather reports of localized hail and flooding.

WISCONSIN: Temperatures for the month of July were cool. There was a lot of rain for this time of year. There has been no problem with insects. Generally, bees are in good condition. Little foliage remains for the bees. Production was good and is almost over. Demand for honey is good at the retail level and fairly good at the wholesale level. Prices are generally unchanged.

U.S Exports of Honey By Country, Quantity, and Value

	Year to Date		JUNE 2016	
	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars
COMB & NATURAL HONEY PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - -				
Bahamas, The	3,283	12,972	0	0
Bahrain	32,757	79,512	0	0
Barbados	11,120	58,237	2,143	14,268
Bermuda	7,115	37,336	2,973	16,769
Cambodia	999	7,686	0	0
Cayman Islands	2,238	13,272	0	0
China	230,455	853,018	18,935	66,650
Guyana	1,796	15,595	816	7,067
Hong Kong	10,008	27,062	0	0
Japan	72,721	279,353	4,485	10,887
Jordan	733	3,676	733	3,676
Korea, South	109,994	535,464	18,441	89,242
Kuwait	177,407	432,897	0	0
Lebanon	408	3,221	0	0
Leeward-Windward Islands(*)	721	7,627	415	4,431
Malaysia	353	4,613	0	0
Mongolia	650	5,036	0	0
Netherlands Antilles(*)	7,890	50,545	898	5,382
Pakistan	18,309	44,442	0	0
Panama	16,070	80,323	5,387	32,252
Philippines	384,936	934,358	119,749	290,669
Saudi Arabia	15,034	65,954	0	0
Singapore	35,426	99,129	7,587	18,416
United Arab Emirates	247,036	613,968	59,277	146,579
Vietnam	375	4,285	0	0
Yemen(*)	203,337	737,100	0	0

**NATURAL HONEY, NOT ELSEWHERE INDICATED
OR SPECIFIED - - -**

Australia(*)	61,570	199,313	0	0
Bahamas, The	21,250	129,210	2,094	6,683
Barbados	11,493	51,159	0	0
Bermuda	8,683	50,004	838	6,478
Brazil	19,108	62,622	0	0
Cambodia	1,977	14,271	820	5,555
Canada	404,069	1,798,378	55,009	276,022
Cayman Islands	2,388	13,284	0	0
China	89,670	315,866	1,836	4,028
Dominican Republic	2,536	9,520	2,536	9,520
France(*)	11,923	28,940	0	0
Hong Kong	59,688	305,590	17,000	49,153
Indonesia	19,113	50,750	0	0
Jamaica	1,815	5,915	0	0
Japan	28,512	102,470	350	3,555
Korea, South	8,640	15,999	0	0
Leeward-Windward Islands(*)	567	2,510	0	0
Mexico	18,870	85,688	0	0
Netherlands Antilles(*)	4,122	30,268	0	0
Philippines	6,115	42,136	0	0
Singapore	6,674	37,384	2,393	5,808
Taiwan	81,180	172,260	81,180	172,260
Trinidad and Tobago	3,492	10,192	1,746	5,096
United Arab Emirates	18,337	73,111	0	0
Venezuela	18,597	34,410	0	0

GRAND TOTAL	2,501,560	8,647,931	407,641	1,250,446
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U.S Imports of Honey By Country, Quantity, and Value

Year to Date			JUNE 2016		
Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars	CIF Value Dollars	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars	CIF Value Dollars

WHITE HONEY – NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - -

Argentina	4,159,056	9,928,872	10,179,342	724,635	1,527,512	1,573,061
Brazil	302,856	1,079,919	1,110,434	0	0	0
Canada	4,350,933	11,683,816	11,798,539	510,946	1,222,521	1,233,236
Egypt	3,419	18,375	18,766	1,907	9,555	9,761
France(*)	215	2,007	2,132	0	0	0
India	165,509	385,718	400,100	37,200	66,020	68,820
Italy(*)	3,954	42,167	52,959	228	2,610	5,410
Mexico	770,094	2,880,907	2,909,896	298,179	1,086,905	1,101,371
New Zealand(*)	9,199	19,985	33,301	6,500	14,588	27,702
Serbia	1,106	6,442	6,445	0	0	0
Taiwan	79,980	139,500	146,045	20,150	34,875	36,290
Turkey	9,297	62,761	62,762	0	0	0
United Kingdom	1,126	11,268	11,680	0	0	0
Uruguay	19,122	59,089	59,277	0	0	0

EXTRA LIGHT AMBER HONEY – NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - -

Argentina	7,405,860	18,395,436	18,873,905	1,451,890	2,864,375	2,945,021
Australia(*)	39,000	161,850	165,410	0	0	0
Brazil	230,857	816,956	858,656	37,520	135,072	140,476
Canada	171,600	689,744	694,641	1,606	9,083	9,284
France(*)	2,385	36,856	40,306	192	3,723	3,789
India	5,740,533	12,616,466	13,161,442	1,590,600	2,821,833	2,950,395
Italy(*)	6,367	33,913	36,245	5,356	18,211	18,711
Mexico	756,861	2,746,041	2,794,669	479,783	1,732,358	1,764,839
Pakistan	18,519	48,160	48,900	0	0	0
Portugal	2,308	14,637	15,131	0	0	0
Spain	18,560	96,411	100,911	0	0	0
Taiwan	720,802	1,507,986	1,509,388	114,840	209,584	209,685
Thailand	742,850	1,822,364	1,861,269	42,510	144,531	145,435
Ukraine	3,333,554	8,164,734	8,482,239	499,774	1,115,892	1,185,075
Uruguay	45,956	156,248	159,348	0	0	0
Vietnam	382,352	895,597	954,837	42,752	145,357	156,457

LIGHT AMBER HONEY – NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE –

Argentina	3,019,493	6,387,448	6,590,564	898,948	1,621,238	1,665,762
Armenia	11,032	47,261	52,261	0	0	0
Australia(*)	4,248	64,893	65,390	0	0	0
Austria	37,380	361,764	386,894	5,316	49,026	52,389
Brazil	816,469	2,597,443	2,734,644	265,584	868,247	939,315
Bulgaria	990	4,950	5,592	0	0	0
Burma	427,800	914,853	968,343	0	0	0
Canada	317,993	788,718	795,441	0	0	0
Croatia	2,126	11,158	11,497	432	3,730	3,954
Dominican Republic	107,782	318,950	330,802	40,475	112,960	118,432
Germany(*)	271,645	1,456,761	1,509,419	85,500	473,959	491,459
Greece	2,540	18,165	19,147	2,540	18,165	19,147
India	7,466,594	16,863,379	17,368,474	1,379,542	2,327,647	2,438,146

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Israel(*)	708	7,280	7,515	0	0	0
Italy(*)	3,874	63,121	64,307	289	4,847	4,943
Malaysia	19,200	48,000	48,001	0	0	0
Mexico	283,452	972,351	982,091	139,440	445,382	452,754
New Zealand(*)	63,273	299,381	313,165	461	5,800	5,897
Pakistan	1,084	8,325	9,157	688	5,535	6,088
Poland	1,253	7,672	8,919	257	2,336	2,661
Romania	1,207	8,187	10,012	0	0	0
Russia	818	3,350	3,357	0	0	0
Spain	9,018	73,859	75,308	1,343	13,303	13,519
Switzerland(*)	257	3,893	3,894	0	0	0
Taiwan	18,560	26,170	28,170	0	0	0
Thailand	1,877,520	4,474,250	4,689,031	196,100	431,420	447,955
Turkey	1,693,140	5,126,293	5,565,243	0	0	0
Ukraine	660,575	1,663,863	1,797,570	210,180	541,860	584,410
Uruguay	1,194,469	2,518,530	2,574,590	409,264	702,316	729,920
Vietnam	11,799,855	23,770,634	25,012,900	3,064,045	5,297,454	5,553,050

NOT OTHERWISE SPECIFIED OR INDICATED ---

Albania	275	2,112	2,477	0	0	0
Argentina	192,741	373,788	388,351	38,152	55,948	61,814
Australia(*)	2,243	18,491	19,391	0	0	0
Brazil	37,585	127,494	135,509	0	0	0
Bulgaria	804	2,088	2,448	0	0	0
Canada	33,582	69,226	70,080	69	2,048	2,063
China	55	2,970	3,045	0	0	0
Croatia	1,807	3,426	3,427	1,807	3,426	3,427
Dominican Republic	77,038	193,405	198,572	0	0	0
France(*)	4,636	63,662	67,586	200	2,848	2,953
Greece	19,801	139,772	150,177	216	2,409	3,909
Hungary	2,956	18,114	19,614	0	0	0
India	132,434	361,802	374,212	42,115	138,186	143,472
Israel(*)	3,557	35,871	36,710	0	0	0
Italy(*)	4,761	62,070	64,281	1,330	15,293	15,650
Korea, South	979	8,409	8,661	0	0	0
Mexico	128,078	384,258	389,459	64,137	222,377	223,271
New Zealand(*)	311,846	3,868,131	3,966,236	63,976	1,480,111	1,509,109
Pakistan	2,138	10,285	10,690	0	0	0
Poland	11,634	71,514	79,023	2,216	13,966	15,579
Russia	21,811	77,989	84,256	0	0	0
Saudi Arabia	9,353	71,030	73,490	0	0	0
Sierra Leone	58,590	160,230	175,230	0	0	0
Spain	28,015	216,348	223,003	0	0	0
Taiwan	123,279	360,271	377,188	40,080	112,485	117,962
Ukraine	33,074	93,350	102,398	0	0	0
United Arab Emirates	2,010	2,671	2,905	2,010	2,671	2,905
United Kingdom	13,040	132,511	142,374	1,100	22,773	23,001
Vietnam	4,491,701	8,288,769	9,004,825	1,015,895	1,660,038	1,804,897

COMB AND RETAIL HONEY –

Armenia	4,204	46,381	48,068	0	0	0
Australia(*)	19,724	162,146	165,221	0	0	0
Austria	5,379	67,270	74,036	0	0	0
Belarus	1,280	7,639	8,564	0	0	0
Brazil	7,239	55,707	56,901	0	0	0

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Bulgaria	120,541	411,636	434,120	24,789	82,352	86,481
Canada	94,087	581,462	585,988	5,080	21,540	22,140
Cyprus	1,385	6,459	7,105	0	0	0
Denmark(*)	3,898	32,831	33,576	0	0	0
Dominican Republic	6,887	18,115	19,482	5,240	11,407	11,992
Egypt	10,053	22,792	23,896	1,680	12,000	12,288
France(*)	176,833	1,164,123	1,222,045	17,475	170,888	180,487
Germany(*)	116,316	739,834	774,216	18,530	135,550	143,821
Greece	33,501	406,998	413,733	7,489	103,356	106,123
Guatemala	11,360	56,900	59,109	7,800	49,500	51,200
Hungary	61,816	522,075	542,278	2,926	32,045	32,622
India	347,387	1,053,590	1,097,984	128,678	351,495	364,940
Israel(*)	1,867	13,260	13,310	0	0	0
Italy(*)	16,964	209,133	217,514	8,244	81,708	86,586
Korea, South	187	7,000	9,320	187	7,000	9,320
Lebanon	1,650	21,075	22,219	1,650	21,075	22,219
Lithuania	9,300	37,940	41,733	0	0	0
Mexico	23,258	121,193	125,665	623	3,635	3,835
Moldova	1,032	6,067	6,664	0	0	0
New Zealand(*)	594,320	6,217,320	6,312,942	142,641	1,291,314	1,304,541
Poland	7,709	38,817	41,105	1,008	6,978	7,278
Portugal	13,598	98,391	102,536	3,324	28,184	29,674
Romania	9,096	44,973	49,194	0	0	0
Russia	62,625	287,938	316,732	2,934	9,377	10,315
Saudi Arabia	3,332	22,042	22,047	0	0	0
Serbia	4,920	37,857	40,210	0	0	0
Spain	154,479	1,028,012	1,085,391	31,620	219,738	228,738
Switzerland(*)	4,279	70,311	74,091	391	6,711	7,123
Taiwan	83,486	121,858	127,738	24,085	36,566	38,601
Turkey	84,727	617,264	635,111	19,678	152,649	156,570
Ukraine	36,555	110,697	121,767	0	0	0
United Kingdom	3,734	26,664	27,862	0	0	0

FLAVORED HONEY –

Australia(*)	921	145,098	146,452	0	0	0
Belgium-Luxembourg(*)	10,578	41,844	44,431	0	0	0
Canada	4,197	22,119	22,156	0	0	0
China	20,000	61,600	64,007	0	0	0
Denmark(*)	147	2,058	2,059	0	0	0
Dominican Republic	14,711	160,065	161,454	0	0	0
Finland	109	7,433	8,969	0	0	0
France(*)	10,752	19,390	20,961	0	0	0
Greece	3,087	7,658	8,114	0	0	0
India	89,064	208,167	218,152	0	0	0
Ireland	920	8,950	9,728	0	0	0
Italy(*)	121	7,143	7,548	0	0	0
Korea, South	173,645	2,245,135	2,284,260	15,813	346,658	352,865
Mexico	56,091	566,195	569,729	138	2,158	2,165
Peru	419	2,610	2,756	0	0	0
Taiwan	13,734	30,717	32,697	2,400	4,128	4,338
Thailand	13,455	53,108	54,005	0	0	0
Turkey	915	4,744	4,859	0	0	0
Ukraine	718	6,610	7,110	718	6,610	7,110
United Kingdom	272	8,089	8,590	0	0	0

ORGANIC HONEY –

Argentina	49,748	201,298	206,564	18,451	50,738	51,392
Australia(*)	17,917	139,967	145,713	0	0	0
Brazil	8,976,912	31,164,396	32,267,932	1,853,647	6,555,743	6,731,778
Canada	440,566	1,793,584	1,800,277	43,725	191,800	192,391

Denmark(*)	449	3,598	3,856	0	0	0
Dominican Republic	18,856	74,414	76,786	0	0	0
Greece	1,212	26,390	29,133	207	9,075	9,522
India	18,731	59,975	61,932	0	0	0
Italy(*)	10,329	93,757	96,558	450	6,127	6,365
Mexico	592,212	2,015,375	2,054,489	227,359	780,403	794,133
New Zealand(*)	39,133	242,162	258,933	0	0	0
Spain	1,561	18,959	19,491	664	9,082	9,613
Taiwan	57,420	102,016	102,216	19,140	29,284	29,384
Vietnam	37,120	54,400	60,262	37,120	54,400	60,262
Zambia	18,300	25,090	25,091	18,300	25,090	25,091

GRAND TOTAL

78,191,738 212,773,068 220,603,034 16,534,479 40,730,773 42,237,934

Notes:

1. Data Source: Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau, Foreign Trade Statistics
2. All zeroes for a data item may show that statistics exist in the other import type. Consumption or General.
3. (*) denotes a country that is a summarization of its component countries.
4. Users should use cautious interpretation on QUANTITY reports using mixed units of measure.
QUANTITY line items will only include statistics on the units of measure that are equal to, or are able to be converted to, the assigned unit of measure of the grouped commodities.
5. The CIF Value is not included within the 13th month data loads. This means that the CIF Value will be zero (0) for any records that are inserted during this process.
6. Product Group : Harmonized